

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present U.S. Patent application as amended herein. Claims 15, 19, and 22 have been amended. Claims 15, 16, 18, 19 and 21-24 are pending.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claim 19 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. Claim 19 has been amended. Therefore, Applicants request that the objections to claim 19 be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 15, 16, 18, 19, and 21-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,675,364 issued to Stedman et al. (*Stedman*) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,455,561 issued to Brown (*Brown*) further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,731,832 issued to Ng (*Ng*). Claims 15 and 22 have been amended. For at least the reasons set forth below, Applicants submit that claims 15, 16, 18, 19 and 21-24 are not rendered obvious by *Stedman*, *Brown* and *Ng*.

Claim 15 recites a computer system that includes:

- a memory to store a weighted average of brightness corresponding to one or more frames representing a view at different times; and
- a processor coupled to the memory to cause the computer system to transition from an active mode to an inactive mode in response to a predetermined period of inactivity and to compare the property of two frames to each other and cause the computer system to exit the inactive mode in response to the weighted average of brightness of the two frames differing by a predetermined amount.

Claim 22 recites a method that includes:

- causing the computer system to transition from an active mode to an inactive mode in response to a predetermined period of inactivity;
- receiving a first frame corresponding to a view at a first time while in the inactive mode;
- determining a weighted average brightness for the first frame;
- receiving a second frame corresponding to a view at a second time while in the inactive mode;
- determining a weighted average brightness for the second frame; and
- causing the computer system to exit the inactive mode if the weighted average brightness for the first frame differs from the weighted average brightness for the second frame by a predetermined amount.

Thus, Applicants claim causing the computer system to transition from an active mode to an inactive mode in response to a predetermined period of inactivity and causing a computer system to exit an inactive mode in response to motion detected by a camera or any other device.

There is no suggestion to combine the references in the manner stated in the Office Action. It is impermissible to use hindsight to reconstruct the invention. The teaching or suggestion to make the claimed combination and the reasonable expectation of success must both be found in the prior art, and not based on Applicant's disclosure. See *In re Vaeck*, 947 F.2d 488, 20 USPQ2d 1438 (Fed. Cir. 1991). There is no suggestion in the references to modify the security surveillance systems of *Ng* and *Brown* into an apparatus for monitoring a computer system and causing a computer system to exit the inactive state in response to motion detected by a camera or any other device.

Stedman discloses a computer system which provides a wakeup control function.

For example, *Stedman* recites the following:

"After entering the system power saving mode of operation, computer 10 system remains in the system power saving mode of operation until a wakeup signal is generated by I/O controller 40. More specifically, when I/O controller 40 receives an indication of action from either keyboard or

mouse 78, I/O controller then generates the wakeup signal which signals system processor 12 to wake up ...”

See col. 4 lines 37-43. *Stedman* does not teach or suggest causing the computer system to exit an inactive mode in response to motion detected by a camera or any other device.

Ng discloses comparing two video frames to determine motion. The system disclosed by *Ng* compares video frames on a pixel-by-pixel basis. The comparison of pixels in the current image with corresponding pixels in the reference image continues until the differences between all pixels have been determined. See col. 7, line 11-28. *Ng* does not disclose causing the computer system to transition from an active mode to an inactive mode in response to a predetermined period of inactivity and comparing video frames while a system is in an inactive mode. *Ng* does not provide any motivation for combination with a computer system nor does *Ng* disclose, teach, or suggest causing a computer system to exit an inactive mode in response to the weighted average of brightness of the two frames differing by a predetermined amount.

Brown discloses a surveillance system for monitoring a scene during periods of inactivity. See col. 4, lines 5-6. The surveillance system uses the size of the change between frames and the duration of the change to discriminate between nuisance changes and those changes that represent a breach of safety. See col. 4, lines 10-13. However, *Brown* does not disclose causing a computer system to exit an inactive mode when a change is detected. When *Brown* detects a change between frames, a threshold detector output 18 is set, and a discrepancy counter 16 is enabled in order to detect the duration of change. See col. 4, line 53 to col. 5, line 5. Therefore, *Brown*’s surveillance system enters another stage of processing after detecting a difference between frames. This teaches away from the present invention as claimed.

Stedman, Ng, and Brown do not disclose, teach, or suggest causing the computer system to transition from an active mode to an inactive mode in response to a predetermined period of inactivity and causing a computer system to exit the inactive state in response to the weighted average of brightness of the two frames differing by a predetermined amount. These features are expressly recited in claims 15 and 22. Therefore, the present invention as claimed in claims 15 and 22 is patentable over *Stedman, Ng, and Brown*.

Claims 16, 18, 19 and 21 depend from claim 15. Claims 23 and 24 depend from claim 22. Because dependent claims include the limitations of the claims from which they depend, Applicants submit that claims 16, 18, 19, 21, 23, and 24 are patentable over *Stedman, Ng and Brown* for at least the reasons set forth above.

Conclusion

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that the rejections have been overcome. Therefore, claims 15, 16, 18, 19 and 21-24 are in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited. The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is believed that such contact would further the examination of the present application.

Please charge any shortages and credit any overcharges to our Deposit Account

number 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,
BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN, LLP

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Paul A. Mendonsa
Paul A. Mendonsa
Reg. No. 42,879

12400 Wilshire Boulevard, Seventh Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90025-1026
(503) 684-6200

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MARKED-UP AMENDED CLAIMS

IN THE CLAIMS

15. (Twice Amended) A computer system [that operates in a active mode and enters an inactive mode in response to a predetermined period of inactivity, the computer system] comprising:

a memory to store a weighted average of brightness corresponding to one or more frames representing a view at different times; and

a processor coupled to the memory to cause the computer system to transition from an active mode to an inactive mode in response to a predetermined period of inactivity and to compare the weighted average of brightness of two frames to each other and [to] cause the computer system to exit the inactive mode in response to the weighted average of brightness of the two frames differing by a predetermined amount.

19. (Twice Amended) The computer system of claim 16, wherein the processor determines [the] a frame property when the computer system is in the inactive mode and does not determine the frame property when the computer system not in the inactive mode.

22. (Thrice Amended) A method [of causing a computer system to exit an inactive mode that is entered in response to a predetermined period of inactivity, the method] comprising:

causing the computer system to transition from an active mode to an inactive mode in response to a predetermined period of inactivity;

receiving a first frame corresponding to a view at a first time while in the inactive mode;

determining a weighted average brightness for the first frame;

receiving a second frame corresponding to a view at a second time while in the inactive mode;

determining a weighted average brightness for the second frame; and

causing the computer system to exit the inactive mode if the weighted average brightness for the first frame differs from the weighted average brightness for the second frame by a predetermined amount.